

Pending Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)

1 ~~2. (currently amended) A An isolated and purified recombinant V antigen protein free of other proteins encoded by a the plasmid having the construct of pPAV13 as shown in Figure 1 with a fusion protein replacing 67 N terminal amino acids.~~

2 ~~3. (currently amended) A An isolated and purified recombinant truncated V antigen protein lacking the first free of other proteins produced by recombinant techniques with a fusion protein replacing 67 N-terminal amino acids of native V antigen and which is for inducing a protective anti-V antigen antibody.~~

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

3 ~~8. (currently amended) A The isolated and purified recombinant V antigen protein free of other proteins of claim 2, wherein the encoded by a plasmid prepared by recombinant techniques encoding proteins controlling the effects of Y. pestis and inducing protective immunity, the plasmid comprising comprises low calcium response regions V and H and the structural gene for staphylococcal protein A.~~

9. (canceled)

Claims 10. -38. (canceled)